

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps

# THE VIGILEER

Vol. 53 No. 25

June 29, 2007

Aviano Air Base, Italy

## Fly Bys

### Holiday closures

The base exchange, commissary, food court Banca Popolare and the Mensa dining facility are closed Wednesday. Food vendors will be at the air show and evening events.

### FMO move

The Furnishings Management Office customer service section is now located in Bldg. 1409 near the Area F contractor gate. To reach the office, call Ext. 2272. The FMO warehouse has also relocated to Bldg. 43 at Via Monte Colombera in Aviano. Directions to the warehouse can be found at <https://webasp.usafe.af.mil/aviano/housing/>. The warehouse can be reached at Ext. 7482. For satellite and decoder information, call Ext. 7872.

### Thrift shop

The Aviano Thrift shop is closed. The shop is scheduled to reopen July 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Terminal closed

The passenger terminal is closed at 1 p.m. Monday. Passengers can early check-in from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The terminal is also closed Wednesday. For flight information, call Ext. 7680.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Marc Lane

### Aviano participates in Paris Air Show

An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 555th Fighter Squadron was on display from June 18-24 at the Paris Air Show. Nearly 200,000 visitors walked the tarmac at Le Bourget, France. Seven Department of Defense aircraft were on static display during the show including a C-17 Globemaster, C-130J Hercules, F/A-18 Super Hornet, F-15E Strike Eagle, HH-60 Pave Hawk and a Predator unmanned aerial vehicle. U.S. military participation in the Paris Air Show demonstrates the U.S. commitment to international security, promotes international cooperation and contributes to U.S. foreign and security policy objective.

## Thunderbirds to perform at Aviano

*Courtesy of the  
Aviano Air show committee*

As part of Aviano's Independence Day celebration, the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, will perform an air show at noon Wednesday.

The show is not open to the general public; however Italian and American ID card holders and invited guests will have access to the base for the show.

The Thunderbirds will perform a practice

**See Thunderbirds, Page 7**

**Spouse It Up:** The next Spouse It Up is at 10:30 a.m. July 11 in Area D. For more information, call the A&FRC at Ext. 5407.

*World's Finest  
MMVA/DUI counter*

**20 days ...**

*Since Aviano's last DUI.*

**90 ...**

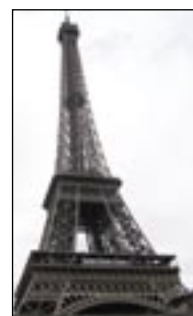
*Major Motor Vehicle Accidents*



### Family tradition

An Army chief warrant officer, who is also a Black Hawk pilot, enlists his 18-year-old son into the infantry.

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### City of love

Travel to historic and romantic Paris where the famous sites are plentiful and the culture colorful.

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**Deadline info:** The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Send all information by e-mail to the Vigileer at [vigileer@aviano.af.mil](mailto:vigileer@aviano.af.mil). Faxed articles will not be accepted. The public affairs office is located in Bldg. 1360, Rm. 19. The Vigileer staff can be reached at Ext. 7344.

**Editorials:** We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with the community. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public.

**World's Finest:** Messages can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations.

## From the Top: Those Who Lead

### 31st Fighter Wing

# CST prepares Airmen for war

**By Col. David Slade**  
*31st Mission Support Group  
commander*

**T**eam Aviano, thank you for the warm welcome! My family and I have been thoroughly impressed with every aspect of this wing from the wonderful pet-friendly temporary lodging facilities to the sound of freedom every time one of our aircraft rolls down the runway. It is readily apparent that every member of the World's Finest is dedicated to excellence in all you do.

One of the priorities our Chief of Staff has laid out is winning the Global War on Terror. You, the members of the 31st Fighter Wing, have been and will continue to be heavily engaged in this endeavor. In order to win this war, we, as an Air Force, are quickly changing the approach we have taken to mission ready combat training.

Unlike conflicts of the past, the Air Force is as heavily engaged on the ground as it is in the air. In order to ensure our deploying Airmen have the skills to succeed we have taken on a new approach to training.

Combat skills training is being added into many accession programs. Second Air Force has stood up a major training program to ensure Airmen supporting Army organizations are trained and ready to perform in a not so familiar environment, and many functional areas have stood up specialized pre-deployment training programs.

What this means to us in garrison is that we need to re-look at the efforts we are taking to ensure the Airmen of the 31st Fighter Wing are mission ready at all times, so they can accomplish their primary jobs while operating on the ground far from the protection of our traditional Air Force bases.

I spoke with a civil engineer captain

who had just returned from a 365 day TDY to Baghdad, Iraq. This captain managed numerous construction projects across the city and ventured outside the Green Zone several times a week to monitor construction planning and progress.

She was awed by the reception of the Iraqi people and their desire to build a better community for their families. While out accomplishing this rewarding work, she found the need to be on guard at all times.

During her time there, her small convoy had come under sniper fire, been ambushed by insurgents and forced to circle small outposts in order to search for an entrance without stopping and becoming a target for a local sniper.

Our day-in and day-out training needs are a top priority to prepare our Airmen for operations in this type of environment. Winning the Global War on Terror is not an additional duty. It is our primary focus and it is our responsibility to ensure that every Airman we send to the AOR is fully prepared to integrate into combat operations and succeed.

We, the men and women of the 31st Fighter Wing, owe this to one another and need to support each other as we strive to balance in garrison execution with mission ready training.

We have an awesome team and we will achieve the greatest level of success working together.



## Aviano Volunteer of the Week

**Name:** Tammy Ainardi

**Why nominated:** Since April, Tammy Ainardi has volunteered in the 31st Medical Group. When she first started at the medical group, a local national employee was out on sick leave. Mrs. Ainardi jumped right in and helped out with ward clerk duties and birth registrations.

She kept inpatient records moving so the base was not delinquent and she kept up with 10 birth registrations during a one-week period.

During her time at the medical group, she has also been a liaison with Italian physicians and coordinates documents for translation.



## Crime in the local area

*Courtesy of the 31st Security Forces Squadron*

*It seems this week's trend narrows down to one word: "Windows!"*

*There were six actual or attempted house break-ins throughout the Aviano area and in five cases the windows were used as an entry point. If you are not awake or home, close and lock the shutters! This will make intruders take more time trying to break in and it could cause excessive noise to alert others in and around your home.*

*Additionally, there were two military ID cards found. This is asking for trouble. Secure your CAC and secure your identity.*

*In addition, security forces responded to the following calls:*

**June 12** – An Airman discovered the lawn equipment he rented from Outdoor Recreation was stolen from his backyard in the San Foca Built-to-Lease housing area. *Here are a couple of options to prevent this scenario: Use this equipment at the earliest possible opportunity and return it when you are finished or secure them in such a way thieves will not have access.*

**June 13** – An Airman found a license plate while in the Area One laundromat parking lot. *Take a quick peek and ensure your*

*license plate is secured. This will prevent a hefty fine if caught without it.*

**June 15** – An Airman located a gypsy symbol on the outside of his residence in Sedrano BTL. *The same marking was identified on several houses within the neighborhood. The markings indicated the possibility of a planned robbery. Be vigilant of markings on or around your home.*

**June 16** – A family member reported her wallet stolen in Padova. She entered a bar and bookstore before discovering the wallet had vanished. The wallet contained €100, \$10, an ATM card, credit card and an ID card.

**June 17** – An Airman was attacked by a soon-to-be identified civilian while he was in his garage. The Airman fractured his leg due to a fall during the altercation. *If you notice someone in or around your home, contact Security Forces and local Carabinieri immediately. Do not try to engage unpredictable and possibly dangerous people.*

To report suspicious activity, call the Law Enforcement Desk at Ext. 7200.

**FTAC:** The First Term Airman Center has a team leader position for a staff sergeant or senior airman. For more information, call Ext. 5577.

## Aviano child supervision guidelines

*Courtesy of the 31st Medical Operations Squadron Family Advocacy*

**I**talian law prohibits abandonment of any person younger than 14, or who, by reason of mental or physical illness, is incapable of caring for themselves. Abandonment is not defined and could include leaving a child playing unattended or in a car.

Adult supervision is defined as someone who assumes responsibility for the child such as a parent, friend or care provider.

The following is a list of Aviano supervision guidelines. The ages specified are the maximum ages and are based on the child's ability to demonstrate age appropriate behavior. Children who do not demonstrate age appropriate behavior should not be given the same degree of self-management responsibilities.

Parents are also responsible for considering any physical or mental limitations a child may have when considering how much supervision is necessary.

### **Newborn to age four**

- Can not be left without a sitter
- Can not be left alone overnight

- Can not be unattended outside, including playing
- Can not be left in a car unattended
- Can not be a sitter for their siblings or other youth

### **Age five**

- Can not be left without a sitter
- Can not be left alone overnight
- Can be outside unattended at a playground or in a yard, but must be within sight or hearing of their caretaker
- Can not be left in a car unattended
- Can not be a sitter for their siblings or other youth

### **Ages six to 10**

- Can not be left without a sitter
- Can not be left alone overnight
- Can be outside unattended, but must be within sight or hearing of an adult that can provide assistance
- Can not be left in a car unattended
- Can not be a sitter for their siblings or other youth

### **Ages 11 to 13**

- Can not be left without a sitter
- Can not be left alone overnight
- Can be outside unattended, but must be within visual sight or hearing of an adult
- Can be left in a car unattended, but

- the keys must be removed, and they must be within an adult's sight or hearing
- Can not be a sitter for their siblings or other youth

### **Ages 14 to 15**

- Can be left without a sitter but must have access to adult assistance
- Can not be left alone overnight
- Can be outside unattended
- Can be left in a car unattended but with the keys removed
- Can be a sitter for siblings or other youth

### **Ages 16 to 17**

- Can be left without a sitter
- Can be left alone overnight
- Can be unattended outside
- Can be left in a car unattended but with keys removed
- Can be a day and overnight sitter for siblings or other youth.

Youth who are sitters must have access to an adult and a telephone and live near by. It is recommended that they received American Red Cross baby-sitting training or the equivalent.

For more information on the supervision guidelines, call Family Advocacy at Ext 5667.



From Thunderbirds page 1

show at 2 p.m. Monday. The north half of Area F will be off limits during the practice and main show. AP highway and the main gate will also be closed during the practice and main performance.

The main gate will be open at 8 a.m. Wednesday. Those coming to watch the show should enter the main gate where ID cards will be checked. The gate will close at 11:30 a.m. It will reopen after the show at approximately 1:30 p.m.

People must park in the designated parking area where a shuttle will take them to the viewing area. People will not have access to any other parts of the base for the show.

The Roveredo Gate is open to ID holders only and parking will be in the base exchange and commissary lots.

To avoid going to Area F, people can park in Areas One or Two and take a shuttle to the base. The shuttle will start at 8 a.m. and run approximately every 10 minutes.

Those attending should not bring weapons, knives, coolers, backpacks, large bags, alcohol, bicycles, skates, including inline, scooters and skateboards. People with these items will not be allowed on base.

Guests may carry lawn chairs, purses, diaper bags, strollers, umbrellas, baby bottles and cameras. All hand carried items may be searched.

In addition to the Thunderbirds aerobatic display, there will be several aircraft on display, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe band will perform and food and beverages will be sold.

### Fourth of July evening events

The 31st Services Squadron is hosting several Independence Day festivities starting at 6 p.m. at Freedom Park.

Activities include youth scavenger hunts, face painting, bouncy castles, games and food and beverage booths. The U.S. Air Forces in Europe band will also perform from 8 to 9:30 p.m. and fireworks will start at 10 p.m.

### Thunderbird facts

- A Thunderbirds air demonstration is a mix of formation flying and solo routines.

The four-aircraft diamond formation demonstrates the training and precision of Air Force pilots, while the solo aircraft highlight the maximum capabilities of the F-16.



Courtesy photo

- The pilots perform approximately 30 maneuvers in a demonstration.

- The Thunderbirds squadron is an Air Combat Command unit composed of eight pilots, four support officers, three civilians and more than 130 enlisted personnel performing in 25 career fields.

- In addition to their responsibilities as the official U.S. Air Force aerial demonstration team, the Thunderbirds are part of our combat force. If required, the team's personnel and aircraft can be rapidly integrated into a fighter unit at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Since the aircraft are only slightly modified, they can be made combat-ready in less than 72 hours.

Information courtesy of

<http://www.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=185>

**HCAC:** The 31st Medical Group is hosting a Health Consumers Advisory Council meeting at 3 p.m. July 10 in the Community Center.



Courtesy photo

### Helping the environment

**Above:** Airman 1st Class Joshua Chappel (left), 31st Maintenance Squadron fabrication shop, Brian Vilders, (right) 31st MXS fabrication shop, and Lt. Col Nathan Lyden (back), 31st MXS commander, carry bags filled with trash picked up off of the off-limits road. Maintenance squadron members cleaned the road from the railroad tracks to AP highway Saturday.

## Playing cards preserve history

By Meghan Vittrup  
American Forces  
Press Service

**W**ASHINGTON – Defense Department officials will issue decks of playing cards to deployed troops starting July 31.

The cards are training aids designed to help the service-members understand the archaeological significance of their deployed locations.

Each card has a picture of an archeological site, artifact or a brief statement about actions that should be taken upon discovering an archeological site. They explain what constitutes an archeological site and what to watch for before carrying out missions near these sites. The cards are also a source for understanding the culture in which

the Soldiers are fighting.

The idea behind the archaeological deck of cards began when a group of Middle Eastern archaeologists decided to work with the military archaeological community to educate military members about the places they are being deployed.

Each card in the new deck tells a story. The two of clubs card depicts the Nabi Yunis mosque in Mosul, Iraq. There is speculation that this mosque holds the ruins of the biblical prophet Jonah.

The enemy has been known to use historical sites and artifacts to their advantage.

Officials are hoping this new program will inform troops about the importance of protecting the past and respecting the things that are important to the Iraqi and Afghanistan cultures.

# Father enlists son in Army

**By Tech. Sgt.  
Jerome Baysmore**  
*31st Fighter Wing  
Public Affairs*

A UH-60 Black Hawk pilot helped his son get "Army Strong" on the flightline here June 22.

Army Chief Warrant Officer Ronald Wagner enlisted his 18-year-old son, Devin, into the infantry in a brief ceremony Friday.

"I'm proud of the fact that he decided to join to serve his country and not just to follow in my footsteps," Chief Wagner said. "I had some worries and fears seeing my eldest son join the military, but I'm glad that he's joining the ranks of the Army."

The chief is a G Company 52nd Aviation Regiment "Gargoyles" pilot and 22-year veteran. He was an infantry soldier in the first Gulf War, who went to warrant officer and later flight school.

Devin Wagner, one of the Army's newest infantry recruits said that he tried college



Photo by Airman 1st Class Michael Dorus

Army Chief Warrant Officer Ronald Wagner (right) enlists his 18-year-old son Devin into the Army infantry June 22.

— didn't like it — but he hopes Army service is better.

"My dad is an officer so I

decided it would be an honor if he would pass down the family tradition," he said.

"It's an honor to have my dad swear me in, and it's an honor to serve my country."

**Channel 12:** Tune in to decoder Channel 12 for news about you and your family. It's the same as Channel 2, but with Aviano info.

# Cadets learn about operational Air Force

**By Staff Sgt. Colleen Wieman**  
*31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Several Air Force Academy and Reserve Officer Training Corp cadets are shadowing Aviano members this summer in support of Operation Air Force.

The program allows the cadets to spend 18 days shadowing one to two Air Force Specialty Codes. Twenty-three cadets have already shadowed here and two more groups of 20 more are expected to arrive throughout the summer.

The program has different requirements based on the cadet's year group, but cadet preference was used to determine what AFSCs they shadowed.

Cadet 1st Class Sheridan Martinez shadowed 2nd Lt. Tony George, 31st Comptroller Squadron, because she was selected as a finance officer after she graduates and receives a commission.

"I learned that the Air Force is getting a lot smaller and that with deployments and everything else, people are very busy," said Cadet Martinez. Aviano is one of 50 Air Force bases worldwide selected to host Air Force Academy and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets.

"The program is designed to be a motivational and educa-

tional summer session to introduce the cadets to the operational Air Force," said 1st Lt. Robert Faith, 31st Fighter Wing, one of two Aviano Operation Air Force project officers. "It supplements the training cadets receive in the Academy and ROTC and provides more experienced second lieutenants upon graduation and commissioning."

During the first week of their 18 day stay, the cadets received a tour of the base and developed an understanding for what each group and different squadrons and agencies do to support the Air Force mission.

"I received an F-16 familiarization ride and got to ride in an Army Black Hawk helicopter," said Cadet Martinez. "It was a great opportunity to get to come to Italy for my Operation Air Force assignment."

They also had several mentorship opportunities including a Top 3 sponsored lunch, an Air Expeditionary Force appreciation lunch and a dinner with Brig. Gen. Craig Franklin, 31st Fighter Wing commander.

"This program could not be successful without the outstanding support of the World's Finest, including transportation, lodging, dining facilities, and the outstanding volunteers that have participated in the tours and shadowing programs," Lieutenant Faith said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth



Photo by Airman 1st Class Liliana Moreno

People who plan to jog during their time off should always warm up beforehand and use a sidewalk or path that faces traffic. People should also be visible day or night, stay hydrated and be mindful of signs of heat stress.

## Caution urged while

**By Staff Sgt. Colleen Wieman**  
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Wednesday is Independence Day and Thursday is a 31st Fighter Wing down day and many Aviano members will be participating in holiday activities.

When it comes to using fireworks, people can not light fireworks on base, in Built-To-Lease housing or GRHP housing. Also people should check with their local towns to see if they are legal. The base will put on a professional show at 10 p.m. Wednesday in Area F.

"People who are going to use fireworks, should have a bucket of water nearby," said Master Sgt. Johnny Smith, 31st Fighter Wing Safety. "Also don't try to relight duds, do not have children play with them and do not put them in bottles."

Those using fireworks should always read and follow label directions, use them only outside and only light one firework at a time. People should not make their own fireworks, never throw or point fireworks at other people and never carry fireworks in their pockets. To dispose of fireworks, people should soak them in water and then place them in the trashcan.

People having celebrations in their homes during the holiday should be mindful of their neighbors who might have to work the next day. Sergeant Smith said in order to avoid guest fatigue the next day hosts should have a party end time and serve water in addition to other beverages.

When cooking outdoors, he recommends using only approved



**Left:** Senior Airman Chris DePasquale, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron, waves a sparkler while Danica Franklin watches during Fourth of July 2006. Care should be used when lighting fireworks. Children should never play with them and people should never try to relight a dud or put them in containers not made for them.

When using fireworks, always have a bucket of water nearby.

People cannot light fireworks on base, in Built-To-Lease housing or in GRHP housing. The base will put on a professional show at 10 p.m. Wednesday in Area F.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethann Caporaletti

**Above:** People participating in aquatic activities, like this water aerobics class at the base pool, should always have someone with them. Swimmers should know their swimming limit and check the water depth before they dive. Outdoor recreation has base pool passes. For a list of water courses or for more information, call Ext. 8623.

**Below:** Bicyclists are a common sight here. People wanting to ride a bike should always obey traffic signs, use hand signals, ride in single file along the right side of the road, be visible day and night and always wear a helmet.

## e celebrating freedom

lighter fluid and never gasoline. People should also monitor their grill, move grills away from the house or overhangs and let the coals cool before disposal.

"We want people to be safe in their homes and also watch their kids," Sergeant Smith said. "People should take the time to find a suitable play area for them and make sure kids don't play in the streets."

Another item of concern is people driving during the holiday.

"Because of the festivities, traffic is going to be more hectic than usual near the base," Sergeant Smith said. "We recommend car-pooling to get on base."

For those driving out of the local area, Sergeant Smith said they should always plan ahead. Planning ahead includes planning for emergencies, knowing hazards and how to control them, expecting a weather change, leaving a travel plan with friends and relatives, inspecting your vehicle, taking extra supplies such as food and flashlights, mapping a route, taking frequent breaks, wearing your seat belt and not driving more than six to eight hours a day.

While out of the area, some people will be boating or swimming. Sergeant Smith said to be careful on the water. When boating, people should always use life vests, don't overload their boat, and check the weather. When swimming, people should always swim with someone, know their swimming ability and check the water before they dive.

"We want people to be careful and most of all be back after their off duty activities in one piece," Sergeant Smith added.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

## Talent show

The Community Center is hosting an adult talent show at 7 p.m. July 20. People who would like to perform can pick up a registration packet at the Community Center. Deadline for registration is July 10. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

## Civilian personnel

The Civilian Personnel Flight has moved to Bldg. 600 in Area E and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The flight can be reached at Ext. 7291. Additionally, the classification section has merged with the Manpower and Organizational Flight. For classification assistance, call Ext. 4041.

## Aviano 5/6

Aviano 5/6 meets at 3 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Professional Development Center. For more information, call Ext. 4376.

## Country concert

Chely Wright will perform a country concert at 7 p.m. July 27 in Hangar One. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

## Central Texas College

Central Texas College is accepting registration for classes starting in July. For more information, call Ext. 5143.

## Oklahoma University

Oklahoma University is accepting registration for fall on-site, online and independent classes. Registration begins Monday.

The Interdisciplinary Master of Arts Degree with an emphasis in International Relations is a non-thesis 32 semester hour degree program. For more information on the program or to sign up for summer 2007 courses, call Ext. 5977 or e-mail [apaviano@ou.edu](mailto:apaviano@ou.edu).

## Academy recruitment

The Air Force Academy is recruiting cadets. Interested Airmen must be United States citizens, single, with no legal dependents and must be 23 years old by July 2008 for the academy, or 22 years old for academy prep school. Potential cadets must have a high school grade point average of 2.7 and SAT or ACT scores. The education center can admin-

## Chapel service schedule

### Saturday

The following services are held at the base chapel:  
11 a.m. – Seventh Day Adventist  
5:30 p.m. – Catholic Mass

### Sunday

The following services are held at the base chapel:  
8:30 a.m. – Liturgical service  
10 a.m. – Contemporary service  
11:30 a.m. – Catholic Mass

4:30 p.m. – Church of Christ

The following services are held at various locations:  
8:30 a.m. – Catholic Mass at the Italian chapel  
10 a.m. – Gospel service at the Mass Briefing Facility

Daily Mass is held at noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the base chapel and at the Italian chapel on Fridays.

ister SAT and ACT tests. For more information, call Ext. 5330.

## Commissioning

The education center hosts commissioning briefing at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of the month. The next briefing is July 19. To sign up and for more information, call Ext. 5330.

## CCAF

Students completing their last Community College of the Air Force requirements must contact the education center for a graduation nomination. For more information or to talk to a counselor, call Ext. 5330.

## Degree program

Air University has a new associate's to bachelor's degree program. The program is designed to help Airmen pursuing a Community College of the Air Force degree receive a bachelor's. All Air Force enlisted members pursuing a bachelor's are eligible. Currently there are 20 participating colleges offering 30 degree programs. For more information, visit the virtual education center or call Ext. 5330.

## MGIB

Airmen can make additional Montgomery GI Bill contributions above the initial \$1,200. Contributions may be made up to \$600 for an additional \$5,400 of benefits. For more information or to contribute, contact

the education center at Ext. 5330.

## Officer PME

Officers can take advantage of Professional Military Education through correspondence and seminars.

For information on Squadron Officer School, visit <http://sos.maxwell.af.mil/socadl/>. For Air Command and Staff College information, visit <http://www.acsc.maxwell.af.mil/Distance%20Learning/distance-learning.htm>.

For Air War College, visit <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/awc/awchome.htm>. Only ACSC and AWC offer seminars. For more information, call Ext. 5330.

## Equality day

The Women's Equality Day committee is seeking volunteers to help with events. The day is August 26, which was the day in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was ratified granting women the right to vote. To join the committee, contact Master Sgt. Tracie Adams at Ext. 7926 or e-mail her at [tracie.adams@aviano.af.mil](mailto:tracie.adams@aviano.af.mil).

## Heritage

The Aviano Native American Heritage committee is seeking volunteers to help in the planning of November's events. The committee will meet once a month for event planning. To volunteer, contact Master Sgt. Timothy Garcia at Ext. 7478 or [timothy.garcia@aviano.af.mil](mailto:timothy.garcia@aviano.af.mil).

## Reel Times

**Today, 7 p.m.** – "Surf's Up" Rated PG – A documentary crew takes audiences behind the scenes during the most competitive, heartbreaking and dangerous display of surfing known – the Penguin World Surfing Championship. Animated

**Saturday, 2 p.m.** – "Surf's Up" Rated PG

**Saturday, 7 p.m.** – "In the Land of Women" Rated PG-13 – A heartbroken man moves to Michigan to care for his ailing grandmother. His grandmother offers him a different perspective on life and death, and he begins to discover that this is only the beginning of his adventure. Starring: Adam Brody, Meg Ryan

**Sunday, 3 p.m.** – "Surf's Up" Rated PG

**Sunday, 7 p.m.** – "Surf's Up" Rated PG

**Thursday, 7 p.m.** – "Fracture" Rated R – A man discovers his wife is having an affair and attempts to murder her. At the crime scene, a detective discovers that his lover is the one laying on the floor and he realizes she isn't dead. Immediately, the husband is arrested after he confesses, but nothing is as simple as it seems. Starring: Anthony Hopkins, Ryan Gosling

*(Titles and times are courtesy of [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com), and are subject to change.)*



### Fly Bys

#### Local events

• A strawberry and raspberry festival runs today through Saturday in Attimis near Udine. The festival has clowns, street performers, accordion competition and horse rides.

• Jazz musician Maceo Parker will perform in a blues festival at 9 p.m. July 7 and 8 in Brugnera. For more information, visit [www.bluesinvilla.com](http://www.bluesinvilla.com).

• A Lady Madonna procession and folklore event is Saturday in Grado.

For more information on events in the local area, call Ext. 7555.

#### Ranch outing

EZ's Place Horse Rescue Shelter is hosting a family day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. Activities include pony rides, exhibits, face painting, desert competition and at 3 p.m. a belly dancing troupe will perform.

The non-profit shelter is a home for horses rescued from neglect or slaughter and offers horse boarding, riding lessons and a summer camp.

To get there, go to the Aviano Industrial Area and follow the signs to Maniago. At the first roundabout, turn left towards Montebelluna. Turn left at the Casa del Conte Agriturismo sign and the shelter is at the end of the gravel road on the right.

For more information, visit [www.zedanranch.de](http://www.zedanranch.de). The site is in English.

## Rich culture awaits Paris travelers

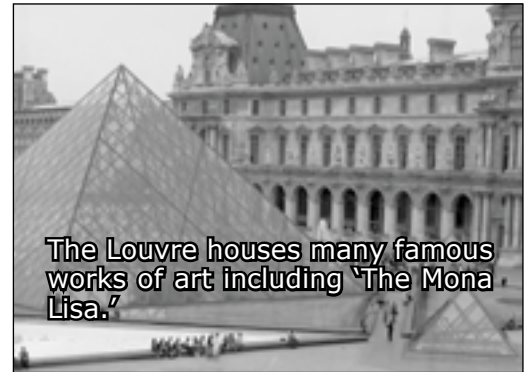
Story and photos by  
**Tech. Sgt. Jerome Baysmore**  
*31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Just a few air travel hours away lies Paris, the "City of Lights," capital of France, and the finish line of the famous Tour de France.

Paris is also home to some of the greatest works of art ever created by human geniuses such as: "The Mona Lisa," "Venus de Milo" and a collection of items which belonged to Napoleon.

The cityscape attracts millions of tourists annually and taking in such sights as the world renowned Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame and the Eiffel Tower are a must.

Traveling around the city is easy with its many buses, taxis, subways and boats that follow the Seine river or you can leisurely stroll to and from the common tourist attractions.



The Louvre houses many famous works of art including 'The Mona Lisa.'

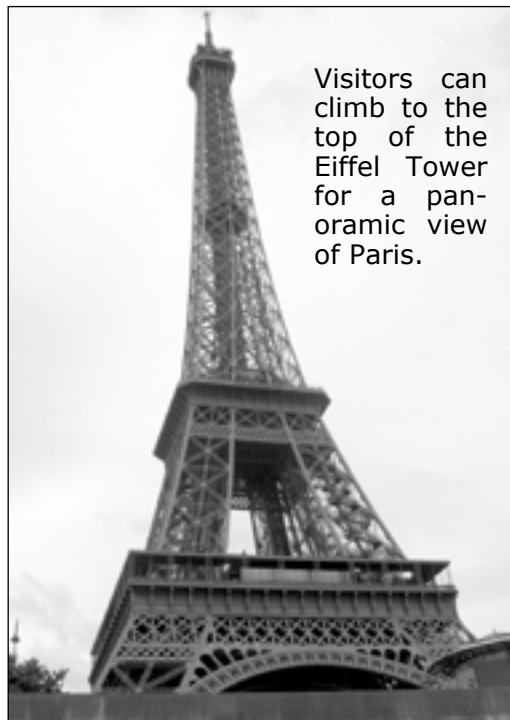
Aside from that, touring Paris streets gives a glimpse into ancient history with its grand medieval abbeys, gothic masterpieces and classical architecture.

The best-known France chateaux, the Château de Versailles, is also a must see. Viewing the beautifully restored Royal Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors and the Chapel gives you a sense of aristocratic life – during its better times.

Walking the vast Notre Dame cathedral is worth the trip as well. Parisians built and have used this place since the 1100s. They allow visitors to tour the cathedral even during mass but patrons must be respectfully quiet. I'm a fan of pipe organs and the massive chords vibrated and flowed through everyone inside the cathedral each time they sounded. There's so much to see inside including the pipe organ which takes up most of the rear wall of the cathedral.

Paris also combines its historic sections with cutting edge fashion. Patrons can also stop into the many stores such as Louis Vuitton and other top designers both to and from the historic sights. There are also many places to haggle for French souvenirs.

Paris has something to offer any traveler with its rich history and fashion but make sure to pack a light jacket or umbrella. You can bank on having a good time in this city, but make sure you plan on the weather changing as well.



Visitors can climb to the top of the Eiffel Tower for a panoramic view of Paris.

**Folklore festival:** A folklore festival runs Saturday and Sunday in Paluzza, which is an hour from Udine toward the mountains.



Photo by Senior Airman Sarah Gregory

Explore **Trieste** and its castles when ITT takes a trip there July 14.

## Information, Tickets and Travel

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- July 7 – Verona Opera Nabucco
  - July 7 – Wine tasting in Friuli
  - July 7 – Guided Republic of San Marino and Gradara
  - July 7 – Switzerland express
- ITT escorts ensure the group arrives and departs from destinations as sched-

uled and will do everything possible to make the trip safe and comfortable. Escorts also provide general information about the area.

Please note weather conditions and dress accordingly. The ITT staff recommends wearing comfortable shoes because most tours involve walking. Call Ext. 5072 or 5026 for more information.

# Biggest winner competition ends

*Courtesy of the  
31st Services Squadron*

The Aviano Health and Wellness Center and 31st Services Squadron's Dragon Fitness Center closed-out its first ever 'Biggest Winner' competition here Saturday.

More than 60 individuals and 30 teams signed up for the three month competition designed to encourage people to learn about a healthier lifestyle and participate in fitness classes.

The overall 'Biggest Winner' in the individual category was Larnell Matthews who reduced his weight by dropping 28 pounds and two inches while lowering his body fat 12.44 percent.

A four-person team called 'Desperate Housewives' took home the team category with a combined effort, dropping 85 pounds and 15 inches while lowering their body fat 12.32 percent.

Both Mr. Matthews and the 'Desperate Housewives' team received an Army Air Force Exchange Service \$50 gift card.

All participants were given a chance to work with a certified exercise specialist throughout the competition and earned points

based on pounds and inches lost. Participants also received points by participating in various health and wellness and fitness-related events such as the Aviano Combat Relay held Saturday.

For more information on exercise events and programs, call the Dragon Fitness Center at Ext. 7459.

## Combat Relay Results

David and Megan Desjardin took home first place honors in the Aviano Combat Relay held Saturday inside the Dragon Fitness Center.

Participants had to complete a series of stations consisting of doing 20 squats, 20 pushups, 20 crunches and 100 jump rope skips. In-between each station, participants had to run a of lap around the basketball court.

Mr. Desjardin bested all male competitors with a time of 3 minutes and 9 seconds while Mrs. Desjardin bested all female competitors with a time of 4:00.

## Fly Bys

### Volksmarch

The Aviano Road Runners host a Volksmarch at 7:45 a.m. Sunday. The group meets at the Bar Municipio in the Roveredo Square and heads to Polcenigo. For more information, call Ext. 7692 or 7404.

### Student athletes

Aviano High School students interested in playing sports must pick up the necessary forms at the school and get physicals. The high school office is open from 8 a.m. to noon Mondays through Fridays. For more information, call Ext. 5877.

### Belly dancing

A Bellymco or belly and flamenco dancing seminar is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. July 22 at the Dragon Fitness Center. Participants can learn new dance steps and choreography. The cost is €25 before July 22 or €30 if signing up July 22. For more information, call 333-400-8588.

### Friuli-Veneto cup

The Alpine Golf Course is hosting the Friuli-Veneto Cup tournament Saturday. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. with tee time at 8:30 a.m. The tournament consists of nine holes with alternate shot and a two-man scramble. The cost is \$35 and includes 27 holes, barbecue rib dinner and a team cup. An extra \$10 allows players to rent a cart for the day. For more information, call Ext. 7386.

### Summer strike

The bowling center is hosting Summer Strike Force Sunday through July 31. People can pick up a punch card and win different prizes. Punches come from bowling a game or buying a beverage and 10 punches enters people into monthly prize drawings. Participants can also enter to win \$250 or \$500. For more information, call Ext. 7487.

**Holiday run:** A Firecracker 5k or 10k run or walk is at 7 a.m. July 6 at the base running path.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

### All-nighter softball

An Aviano softball player participates in the 2006 Aviano Summer Sports Classic softball tournament.

The ASSC is hosting an all-night softball tourney beginning at 5 p.m. July 14 at Freedom Park. Teams must sign up by July 12 at the Dragon Fitness Center.

For more information on this and other ASSC events, call Ext. 7459.

## Challenge yourself for a fulfilling assignment

By Maj. David Kretz  
31st Services Squadron  
commander

The summer season brings many different changes. In our profession, it also brings change in locations with many people packing up for PCS moves. A new adventure is right around the corner for the family and new opportunities to grow with additional experience in your career.

I've PCSed several times in my career and while I'm not a big fan of packing and unpacking all the stuff we've accumulated over the years, I do find the opportunity for new beginnings and new experiences quite refreshing.

Whether you are a new arrival to Aviano, finishing your tour here for more great adventures in our Air Force, or part way through your tour already, I'd like to present you with a little challenge. The challenge is this ... try and leave having bettered yourself and the community along the way.

It sounds simple enough but there are constant challenges along the way. The choices we make with our time will ultimately shape our success.

We have many positive opportunities here at Aviano. The professionals at the education office can help you

“ Too many people arrive here and don't get out and experience so much of what the base and local communities have to offer. Don't be one of them. ”

enroll in classes and continue your education. The additional education helps you and our Air Force. It helps you become more competitive for promotion while also giving you the opportunity to use this knowledge in your duty section.

The community center offers opportunities with Italian language classes and a myriad of other instructional programs.

The point is to challenge yourself and make good choices with how you spend your time. Build a base of knowledge and challenge yourself to apply it.

Be a valuable member of the community. Our base and local communities are a reflection of us. There are many volunteer opportunities both on and off base. Whether you coach youth sports or volunteer with one of the local churches every little bit helps make the community, and you, better.

There are plenty of opportunities and different ways in which to be involved. Find one you enjoy and share a little bit of yourself. You'll find that a small investment of your time goes a long way.

Many people arrive here at Aviano and feel isolated. Our ops tempo is high and getting settled in can be challenging; especially with language barriers and everyone living in so many locations in the area.

The key is to get out and get involved. Too many people arrive here and don't get out and experience so much of what the base and local community have to offer. Don't be one of them.

Before you know it, your time here at Aviano will come to a close. Make the most of your opportunity here and at every assignment. A small investment in yourself and your community benefits everyone.

## Recognizing The World's Finest

Congratulations to the following Airmen for the outstanding completion of their Career Development Courses: Staff Sgt. Robert Mahchung, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron; Airman 1st Class Daniel Kaiser, 31st Security Forces Squadron; Airman 1st Class Kyle Meyers, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Steven Marlin, 31st Maintenance Squadron; and Airman Corey Tharp, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron.

### Extreme Summer

Congratulations to Aviano's Extreme Summer early enrollment winners. Front row: **Jason Cassim**, age 8, received a trip to Edelweiss and **Juanita Garcia**, age 10, received a \$1,000 savings bond. Back row: **Michelle Navarro**, age 13, received a trip to Edelweiss and **Senior Airman Maurice Ricks**, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received a \$1,000 savings bond.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Michael Dorus